New-York Daily Times.

VOL. IV.—NO. 1102. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1855. PRICE TWO CENTS.

new prohibitory liquor law, leaving out the Governor's objections, by about a two-thirds vote.

Later From Havana.

NEW-ORLEANS, Wednesday, March 28.

By the arrival of the *Crescent City* at this port, we have advices from Havana to the 24th instant. PIERCE was greeted on the 22d. No other news of importance.

Large Fire in Wrentham, Mass.

BOSTON, Thursday, March 29.

The straw goods manufactory of Messrs. FOSLETT & READ, in Wrentham, Mass., was destroyed by fire last night. Loss $20,000—fully covered by insurance.

Death of an Eminent Lawyer.

SYRACUSE, Thursday, March 29.

JOHN RUGER, one of our most eminent lawyers, died this morning, of congestion of the brain, aged 62 years.

Death of Hon. Wm. S. Archer.

BALTIMORE, Thursday, March 29.

Hon. Wm. S. ARCHER, formerly U. S. Senator, died at Amelia County, Va., on Wednesday.

The Prohibitory Liquor Law.

TRENTON, Thursday, March 29.

The Senate have postponed the consideration of the Prohibitory Liquor bill until the next session.

Court of Appeals.

ALBANY, Thursday, March 29.

No. 6 under consideration.

Calendar for the 30th—Nos. 10, 195, 12, 14, 15, 20, 24, 25, 30, 32, 33.

STATE AFFAIRS.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Special Correspondence of New-York Daily Times.

ALBANY, Thursday, March 29, 1855.

The Senate last night referred the Temperance bill to a Select Committee to report complete. All three members of the Committee are friends of the measure, though Mr. HOPKINS is very desirous that its more repulsive features should be somewhat softened down, and will probably endeavor to effect some modifications. But I have no faith that his exertions will prove successful.

The Senate positively and somewhat emphatically declined to reconsider the vote fixing a time for the bill going into operation; so that point may be considered settled, or, at least, as settled as anything in Albany can be.

This morning, by unanimous consent, a resolution was passed directing that the third reading of the bill shall be commenced on Thursday afternoon, of next week, at 4 o'clock. It is supposed that on a motion to recommit, Senators will generally give expression to their views on the principle involved in the proposed amendment. The speaking thus far has been on proposed amendments, and without any direct bearing on the main question.

CLAIM BILLS.

Were the order of the day in both Houses. You would be astonished to know how much can be said pro and con on a little bill providing for an examination and settlement of a claim for damage done by the State, or the waters of the State, where they break out of the embankments wherein the State has sought, but failed, to confine them. I do not like to astonish people—I am little inclined to gratify idle curiosity—I won't do either, as I should do both, were I to repeat words spoken in debate when JACOB JAMES' claim bill was up.

IMPROVING NAVIGATION.

Has been the source of great wealth to the State. It has lessened personal risk; it has neutralized the hazards of commerce; it has increased the facilities for concentration, so that great cities prosperously exist where before small villages languished and went to decay. No city has more realized this than the City of New-York; no city can more sensibly feel the advantages which follow judicious expenditure in the removing of natural obstacles in the pathways of traffic.

At no place within my knowledge are such improvements more to be desired than in that famous Hell Gate, as it is familiarly called by the inhabitants of New-York.

At few other places are the obstacles so dangerous—at no point can removals prove so advantageous. The opening of the channel to the passage of ships and steamers of the first class, would work an entire and almost unprecedented change in the danger and delay attendant upon an eastern passage out, and the return home. It would make

"Old Long Island's sea-girt shore,"

a place remembered only in song—in the memory of the the dead that had perished there—in the records of the mighty fleets that had buffeted the gales of the Atlantic so many days, only to become solitary wrecks upon those desolate shores. It would make a saving of time, of danger, of anxiety almost inestimable, and not only that, but it would turn a vast portion of the Northeastern part of your City into a busy mart, relieving the lower section of a pressure of trade now almost unendurable, besides adding millions to the wealth of the mercantile profession, which now is cribbed and confined within the narrow limits of a small point of land.

Feeling this, as your citizens must, they will be glad to know that the good results to which I have thus briefly alluded are in a fair way to be speedily attained. A Company, made up of some of the most enterprising and responsible of your citizens, is now applying for an act of incorporation, authorizing them to enter upon the waters of the channel of Hell Gate, for the purpose of effecting the removal of the obstructions which have so long and so seriously impeded the navigation. The bill appears to be carefully drawn—so that while it encourages the enterprise it affords due and proper protection to any public institution that might possibly be affected. One of the requirements is that the channel shall be opened to a depth of *twenty-two* feet at low water—a depth sufficient to enable almost any vessel to pass through with safety.

THE OFFICE HUNTERS

Are again scattered, and will probably remain away until next Executive Session day. "There is a time for all things," and they appear to realize that their time is not between the weekly conclaves—so they wisely absent themselves. J. B. S.

STATE FINANCES—A HILL TAX.

Report of the Committee on Ways and Means.

IN ASSEMBLY, April 28, 1854.

The Committee of Ways and Means beg leave to report herewith a bill to provide means for the support of Government for the fiscal year, commencing Oct. 1, 1855. It provides for a one mill tax, and your Committee recommend its passage.

The mill tax imposed by the act of July 21, 1853, produced the net sum of $1,295,069 72. Your Committee believe that the bill for a like tax which they now propose to introduce, will realize a like amount, and the reimbursements of the general fund will exhaust the whole of it.

The estimated expenses of the Government for the fiscal year commencing

Oct. 1, 1854, were	$1,583,912 99
The estimated receipts were	1,317,500 00
Leaving a deficiency for the year of	$15,386 99

But, in the estimated receipts was included the constitutional appropriation for the general fund of $300,000, payable out of the surplus revenue of the canals, which appropriation has failed in consequence of there being no such surplus revenue.

That amount, added to the deficiency above stated, makes the total deficiency

	$315,386 99
To which is to be added the deficiency at the close of the year ending Sept. 30, 1854	279,554 28
And it makes a total deficiency of	$593,607 77
Chargeable with which the General Fund will enter on the fiscal year commencing Oct. 1, 1855.	
	$593,607 77
The estimated expenses of Government for the fiscal year commencing Oct. 1, 1855, as contained in the annual appropriation and supply bills, amount to	1,527,186 00
Making a total of	$2,120,793 77
The estimated general revenue fund receipts for the same period amount to	$417,500
To which are to be added the proceeds of the proposed mill tax, say	1,295,069
And it makes a total of receipts	$1,712,569 00
Thus leaving a deficiency at the close of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1856, of	$408,224 77

showing a reduction of $185,383 of the deficiency with which the same fiscal year will commence. But this reduction will be largely increased upon by legislative appropriations in acts other than the general appropriation and supply bills, so that the real deficiency at the close of the fiscal year ending September 30, 1856, will amount to more than $400,000, and will be still increased by such appropriations other than those above referred to, as are daily making by legislative acts.

The annual deficiency is increasing in amount, and is not likely to be much diminished. On the 30th September, 1852, it amounted to $186,243 33; on the 30th of September, 1853, to $419,942 06; on the 30th of September, 1854, to $279,554 28; on the 30th of September, 1855, as estimated above, will amount to $408,407 77.

The loss, by the General Fund, of the annual sum of $300,000 on the Canal Revenue Fund, is the chief cause of this increasing deficiency; and the deficiency will continue until that appropriation shall be restored, or until the General Fund is in some other way replenished. In the meantime, the deficiency can be supplied only by taking or borrowing its amount from the capital of the School, Literature and United States Deposit Funds, as has been done by the Comptroller for several years past, or by his making a temporary loan on his official bond.

E. M. BLATCHFORD,
D. S. MAY,
H. BAKER.

Another Letter from Mr. Burleigh.

To the Editors of the Evening Journal:

I regret that Mr. DELAVAN, without consulting me, should assume the liberty of publishing a private letter of mine in yesterday's *Journal*—because, first, it "misses me up" with a controversy with which it has no connection, and from which I wish to keep entirely clear—and, second, because the public know nothing of the circumstances under which it was written, will be likely to think that it means more or less than was intended when I wrote it. It may be unnecessary for me to add anything more; but I will venture to crave your indulgence, while I state, in correction of certain erroneous reports that have found their way into the public press, that there has been, and is, no "quarrel" between Mr. DELAVAN and myself. Personally, our relations to each other are entirely friendly, and so, I trust, will continue to remain. But candor compels me to add, that while doing full justice to his character and motives, I have felt constrained to dissent from certain of his opinions and acts, having reference to the interests of the Temperance cause. For instance—I do not sympathize with him, but quite the contrary, in his existing position in regard to the Albany Administration, to which I adhere with unswerving confidence; I deprecated his transference to the *Prohibitionist*, of the one-sided report published of our State Temperance meeting; I disapproved of his course in relation to Rev. Mr. CRAMPTON, for whose personal character I entertain a sincere respect, and whose zeal and talents rendered him an efficient advocate of Prohibition; and I dissent most emphatically from his more recent conclusions in relation to Governor SEYMOUR'S veto of the Prohibitory bill of last year. In all these matters, I regard Mr. DELAVAN as wrong; but, as I said in the letter which he has published, such differences of opinion shall not blind me to what he has done for temperance, nor to the personal excellence of his character. In one word, even though this conflict of opinion should be fatal to our cooperation in the relation which we have hitherto sustained to each other, it is simply a *conflict of opinion*, and not of *personalities*; and if, in these matters, we cannot walk together, I think we can, without impeachment or crimination of each other, agree to walk apart.

Respectfully yours, WM. H. BURLEIGH.

No. 73 NORTH PEARL-STREET.

NEW-YORK CITY.

MORE OF THE CYPRIANS.

PROGRESS OF THE ATTACK—DOINGS YESTERDAY.

Legal Opinion on the Vagrancy Laws—Letter from District-Attorney Hall.

The war upon the street-walkers is waged with vigor. Arrests in the Third and Fourth Wards were made in abundance, and the cases disposed of yesterday. *Thirty-five* women were taken in the morning before Justice ROGERS, at the Tombs, but those from the Third Ward were all discharged except two, as no one was willing to testify to the fact of the girls' vagrancy. The prisoners from the Fourth Ward were all consigned to the Penitentiary. The names were as follows:

THIRD WARD.

Sarah Jones, of England, aged 27, discharged.
Catharine Welleon, United States, aged 19, discharged.
Catharine Berry, United States, aged 20, discharged.
Josephine Wise, United States, aged 23, discharged.
Catharine Savage, Ireland, aged 30, discharged.
Georgiana Walker, England, aged 19, discharged.
Isabella Robinson, England, aged 19, discharged.
Louisa McCoye, Ireland, aged 24, discharged.
Margaret Gedney, Ireland, aged 24, discharged.
Sarah Layton, Ireland, aged 26, discharged.
Sarah Ali, Ireland, aged 23, discharged.
Mary Daley, Ireland, aged 19, discharged.
Margaret Mackey, Ireland, aged 20, discharged.
Clarsey Sice, United States, aged 20, discharged.
Ada Byron, England, aged 23, discharged.
Louisa Oakley, United States, aged 24, discharged.
Jane Armstrong, Ireland, aged 25, discharged.
Margaret Magarson, United States, aged 29, discharged.
Mary Eagen, United States, aged 25, committed to Blackwell's Island.
Margaret Wright, Ireland, aged 20, discharged.
Catharine Hamilton, United States, aged 25, discharged.
Adel Rogers, United States, aged 22, discharged.
Elizabeth Jones, England, aged 21, discharged.
Sarah Williams, England, aged 22, discharged.
Matilda Blake, Ireland, aged 20, committed to Blackwell's Island for two months.

FOURTH WARD.

Mary Driscoll, of Ireland, aged 21, sent to the Penitentiary for four months.
Anna English, Ireland, aged 21, 4 months.
Bridget Hilley, Ireland, aged 21, 4 months.
Mary Bradford, Ireland, aged 24, 4 months.
Ellen Field, Ireland, aged 24, 4 months.
Mary Bollman, Ireland, aged 25, 4 months.
Jane Thompson, Ireland, aged 18, 4 months.
Mary Post, United States, aged 22, 4 months.
Ann Smith, Ireland, aged 16, 4 months.
Catharine Lewis, Ireland, aged 26, 4 months.

There was but a single girl among this number who could not read or write. *Nineteen* out of thirty-five were natives of Ireland.

Writs of *habeas corpus* have been sued out in the Supreme Court (returnable *this* day, before Judge MORRIS) in relation to the cases of the females arrested on Wednesday, upon the charge of being vagrants and prostitutes. In the Supreme Court yesterday morning, Judge MORRIS presiding, Mr. JOHN D. MCGREGOR applied for writs of *habeas corpus* for *thirty* of the girls. The petition for the writ specified the names of the parties, and stated that they were in the custody of the Keeper of the City Prison. It averred that the pretence or cause of such imprisonment or detention was *illegal*; and that the commitments were issued wholly without jurisdiction, and that no examination was had or permitted in relation to the alleged offence.

His HONOR remarked that it was entirely unnecessary to parade thirty unhappy women before him for such a purpose on writs of *habeas corpus*, as he could adjudicate in the case of two of them, and the same decision would apply to all. He, however, granted the application for the writs, but ordered that only two cases should be returnable at one time. Writs were, therefore, issued to the keeper of the City Prison, Mr. CHAS. HOOPLE, in these two cases, returnable to-day, at 12 o'clock.

THE POWERS OF THE MAYOR—LETTER FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

The vexed question of the powers of the Mayor, in undertaking this reform, is decided by the following:

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Feb. 20, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR: To your communication touching the statutes upon vagrancy, I have the honor to make answer that, as was recently remarked by a learned Justice of the Common Pleas, (Hon. D. P. INGRAHAM) in a decision rendered upon a vagrancy proceeding brought before him by habeas corpus—the General Statutes of the State relating to vagrants seem confused and conflicting in character. But in the City of New-York there appears a local act which is often forgotten by Magistrates and counsel in their reference simply to the Revised Statutes. It is an act entitled "An act relative to the powers of the Common Council of the City of New-York, and the Police and Criminal Courts of the said City," passed Jan. 25, 1853. (Laws of that year, page 34.) The first section provides as follows: "All persons who, being habitual drunkards, are destitute and without visible means of support, or who, being such habitual drunkards, shall abandon, neglect or refuse to aid in the support of their families, who may be complained of by such families; all persons who shall have contracted an infectious or other disease in the practice of drunkenness or debauchery, requiring charitable aid to restore them to health; all common prostitutes who have no lawful employment wherein to maintain themselves; all able-bodied or sturdy beggars who may apply for alms or obtain charity; all persons wandering, or in any street, highway, passage or other public place, to beg or receive alms, within this City, shall be deemed vagrants." I have subdivided each class by itself for convenience sake.

The classes are five in number—one of drunkards, one of the diseased, one of prostitutes, one of the kind most appropriately termed by popular usage "loafers," and one of beggars, with two subdivisions, of the impostor species and of the needy beggar. The provisions regarding drunkards and the diseased and beggars, are very clear and precise; those relating to prostitutes and idlers are sometimes technically ambiguous to the police, the Magistracies and various Attorneys at law; often with some plausibility. Most of the various provisions of the law, in relation to the latter class in the list in the text, as "lady boarders," as well as those who walk the streets or inhabit the saloons and cellars of the metropolis, in more democratic fashionableness and practice of vice. The class of idlers are controlled by the phrase "not giving a good account of themselves;" and full force is given to authorities who arrest or commit as common disturbers, which is no more than proper to exercise in a crowded metropolis. There existed, prior to 1853, a confusion as to the proper place in which a person charged with vagrancy should be tried, whether in the Police Court of the City or County, or that of the Clerk of the Sessions, or whether there should be one filed with each of those officers. In the latter year, (laws of 1853,) a statute prepared by the present City Judge was passed, thereby a form of record of conviction was substantially given, and the same directed to be filed with the Clerk of the Sessions. By that act a provision of discharges was made, allowing the same before expiration of term of commitment upon an order jointly made by the committing Magistrate and any Almshouse Governor in their discretion. (On the enumerated causes amount to this.) A very proper power; indeed, because often the friends of the vagrant interfere on behalf of him or her, and announce the firm resolution, and perhaps for the vagrant's future. These are the only provisions regarding vagrancy (under that name) which need be referred to for Municipal action. The statute regarding disorderly persons, (2 R. S. 23, 4th edition,) enumerates other classes of idle and vicious persons for whose good behavior during one year, security may be required, subversion to default thereof, a conviction and imprisonment ensues, subject to control of Court of General Sessions and the Almshouse Governors thereafter in various ways. These additional classes comprehend generally—men who abandon wives and children to public charity; incorrigibles, common prostitutes and keepers of houses of ill-fame, common pickpockets and associates, thieves and gamesters, all common rogues or showmen, all keepers of keno and gaming apparatus in public places or in places where liquor is sold, all traveling gamesters, &c. Suspected vagrants and suspected disorderly persons may be themselves examined, as the statutes indicate, touching the allegations. Their conduct is rather a breach of the general police discipline of the community than a crime or a misdemeanor. Their own confessions are competent to conviction. *The Mayor has express power to deal with vagrants and disorderly persons* under the provisions referred to. As suggested by the remarks of your Honor, in your communication, I may leave to add that by pursuing the statutes relating to vagrants and disorderly persons, more summary justice is done to the community than can be attained through the tedious process of indictment and trial. *The felonies of the metropolis are sufficiently numerous to constantly engage the time and attention of Grand Juries and the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, without getting them more contract with the lighter offences and misdemeanors than is absolutely necessary.* Instead of indicting bawdy-houses, unlicensed dramshops, gaming houses, &c., their proprietors and customers could be summarily arrested as vagrants and disorderly persons. The policy of penal law regarding these matters is to attain a *summary climax fundamental to prohibition.*

Accept the assurances of the regard with which I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. OAKEY HALL.

To his Honor the Mayor.

MORE ARRESTS LAST NIGHT.

The summary steps had in their case, had the effect of intimidating the night-walkers from perambulating the streets last night. Broadway was almost entirely deserted by them, and even in Church, Mercer, Wooster, and the adjoining streets, "where they do most abound," they were few and far between. The few who had the temerity to venture forth, walked and acted with becoming though unusual air of circumspection, though their uneasy and anxious looks and swift steps betrayed an unwonted anxiety easily accounted for.

The patrolmen were on the alert;—they were to be seen on almost every corner, peering at every "lone woman" that passed with steadiness more intent than gallant.

But few captures were made however. Not any in the Fifth, Eighth, Tenth, or Fourteenth Wards. In the Third Ward, up to 9 o'clock, seven females were arrested and locked up in the Station-house. They gave their names, ages and residences, as follows:

ELLEN HARRINGTON, aged 19 years, residence corner Rector and Washington-streets.
ELIZA ROGERS, 24 years, No. 102 Church-street.
VIRGINIA SAYRE, aged 22, No. 102 Church-street.
HENRIETTA RAMLIN, aged 19, No. 102 Churchstreet.
MARGARET SIDNEY, aged 28, No. 105 Church-street.
ALICE GRAY, aged 18 years, No. 16 Leonard-street.
ELLEN JOHNSON, aged 16 years, No. 33 Watt-street.

The scene presented at the Station-house, as the prisoners were separately brought in, was truly painful. Some of the arrested "old stagers" seemed perfectly indifferent to their position, while others, younger in years and age, wept as though their hearts would break. The girl HARRINGTON had neither the dress or air of a prostitute, but resembled more what she represented herself to be—a sewing girl. ALICE GRAY declared herself to be a cap-maker; and ELLEN JOHNSON asserted most strenuously that she resided with her parents at No. 33 Watt-street, and was on her way home from a friend's when arrested.

But neither tears or entreaties were of avail—they were all locked up, the officer in command being compelled to detain all persons committed to his charge; he is allowed no discretion in the matter, and cannot rectify the blunders of the ambitious patrolmen, if any such should be made.

DESCENT UPON THE FARO BANKS.

A Third Fierce Demonstration.

The Police, under orders from the Mayor, made another effectual demonstration upon the gambling-houses last night.

Squad M, of the Mayor's Office, entered the gambling establishment No. 510 Broadway, nearly opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel, kept by ROBERT WILLIS, having first been obliged to force two doors. They were told by WILLIS—before resorting to force, and upon demanding admittance—that no gambling was carried on in the premises.

After effecting an entrance, the scene that was presented to the officers' view, was at once diversified, confused and indicrous. Some said that they had been sleeping; others that they had gone in to collect bills, (on the faro bank!) in a word every imaginable variety of excuses were, however, unavailing.

Indisputable substances of gambling were upon search being made, discovered, consisting of a faro box, a roulette table, loaded dice, cards, "chips," and all the appearance of a systematic gambling establishment. Eleven persons were found on the premises.

The Officers detailed for this special duty, found it necessary to call in the assistance of the Fourteenth Ward force, and proceeded at once to remove them to the Eighth Ward Station House, where, by mistake, they were taken instead of to the Fourteenth Ward, where one only of the party was taken. Two managed to effect their escape in the excitement, and through the delay moved that collected outside the house. The parties were all locked up, and will be brought up before Justice OSBORNE this morning. The names of the parties arrested are as follows: ROBT. WILLIS (proprietor), GEO. WISE, Dr. WILLIAMS, ROBT. MCLEAN, CHAS. BANTON, ANDREW LANDER, WM. BLANKENAN, and two others, whose names could not be ascertained.

Several hundred persons assembled in front of WILLIS' establishment, comprising chiefly men who evidently felt a deep interest in the proceeding—being habitually engaged in similar pursuits. Numerous were the queries propounded to the parties in durance vile by their consoling friends, who for the moment were outsiders. How they dashed from the City Hotel and places adjacent was marvelous to witness.

ROBERT WILLIS, a police officer in Brooklyn some years since, headed the list. One WARY is well known as a notorious thimble-rigger, and well known among the frequenters and patrons of the turf as a very experienced scalper in that "profession."

The officers to whom was entrusted the execution of this difficult and delicate enterprise performed their duty with commendable zeal, energy and success.

New City Hall—The Plans.

SECOND DAY.

Yesterday afternoon the Special Committee of the Common Council again met, to examine additional plans to be submitted for a new City Hall. Besides the architects of the different plans, a respectable number of citizens and others interested in the diverse projects were in attendance.

MESSRS. BOLTON and SCHUYLER submitted their plan first. The design presented by them is in architectural keeping with the present City Hall. By the plan the main front is to be on Broadway, extending 260 feet, with height 150 feet. It is to connect by a double colonnade with the present building, the same to remain intact. The main edifice is to be four stories, besides the basement. In the centre is to be a tower 150 feet high. The division and allotment of the rooms is to be left to the decision of the Municipal authorities. It was stated, however, that there would be twenty-five rooms above the number needed for theatrical purposes. It is proposed to construct the building entirely fire-proof, and to heat the same by means of the hall walls, on a new principle. The expense will depend upon the cost of material used in the construction.

Mr. OLMSTED next presented a plan. His proposition is to have the principal front of the building on Chambers-street, the main portion of the front receding from the street fifty-two feet, and the projections receding thirty-five feet. The length on Chambers-street will be 364 feet, extending within fifteen feet of the new brownstone Court-House. The fronts on Broadway and Centre-street will each be 262 feet, the main Broadway front receding 121 feet, and the projections 102 feet. The length of facade of this front, as well as that on Centre-street, are to extend south within 30 feet of the present City Hall, connecting with the same by railed passageways. The three fronts described, together with the present Hall, will enclose a square area 315 by 198 feet. The buildings are to be four stories, including the basement. There will be 170 rooms. Mr. OLMSTED described at length the intended allotment of the rooms and the light and ventilation given each, as also the mode to heat the same with various external octagon projections superadded to all. The expense of his plan was estimated at within a million of dollars.

Mr. UPJOHN is the architect of the new Institute for the Deaf and Dumb now erecting at Fourteenth-street.

Mr. HOVEN entered into an exposition of his project, which was, having removed the Hall of Records and other structures or chambers, to build a six-story marble block entirely around the Park, such block to be 100 feet wide and 100 feet high, or of sufficient heighth to command from the top a full view of the City, and bay and harbor. The top of the building he proposes to make a promenade, and also to erect balconies on the street fronts of the second, third, fourth and fifth stories for ornament and walks; sphinx, statues, &c., are to be erected on top, with five domes. The expense attending this plan was not named. It was suggested, however, that in addition to City purposes the General Post-Office might be embraced in the structure named, with rooms for banking and kindred institutions. He stated that, in consideration of the profits accruing from rent of stores and rooms for banks, as offered by his plan, he would be willing, with others, to give the Common Council some thing for the privilege of erecting the kind of building his plan contemplated.

Mr. MARTIN G. THOMPSON, whose plans and specifications were received with most favoring approval by the Common Council at the time of the first advertisement for plans for a new City Hall, submitted to the Committee a restatement of his plans and specifications, as originally laid before the Common Council. This plan, from the publicity given it at the time, is too familiar to need repetition of its features at present.

Mr. ANDERSON followed, with an explanation of his design, as made in accordance with the original advertisement. His plan proposed a building on the site of the ruins of the New City Hall, to be 200 feet long and 110 feet wide; to be three stories in height, and to contain 84 rooms—12 of these to be used for Court-rooms. The building, built with granite base and the upper sections of marble, will cost about $900,000. Mr. A. complained that if there was to be a deviation from the original instructions, either by changing the site, extent or the cost, the same was not sufficiently made public, and that the subject should be opened again for fair and honorable competition among architects, as in the present conflict of opinion among the authorities it was impossible to tell what was wished for.

Mr. BALLARD offered a plan contemplating three buildings—two of them to front on Broadway and Chambers-street respectively, and a central building between; the building on Chambers-st. to be 320 feet in length, that on Broadway 110 feet, and the central edifice 125 feet long—the three to be connected with corridors. The buildings are to be four stories high, including the basement, and will comprise 118 rooms. Arrangements for a General Post-Office are included in the plan. Mr. B. gave a detailed exposition of the various compartments proposed, and the arrangements for light and ventilation. The expense, it was remarked, depended upon the nature of the material employed.

Mr. RANAY, in exhibiting his plans and specifications, claims the credit of presenting at least a design differing from any of the preceding. His plan had in view a building of hexagedron form—each side to be 180 feet wide, width from wall to wall 275 feet. The building is to be four stories besides the basement. A colonnade of 44 columns is to extend around the edifice. Rising from the centre is to be a grand dome, with space open underneath to the first story. In the centre, underneath, is to be placed a fountain 110 feet in diameter. After describing in detail the location of the different Court-rooms, &c., Mr. R. urged, in conclusion, that the form of building as proposed by him would, with the same material, afford more space than other forms. It might be so constructed as to surround and leave intact the present Hall. The expense and number of rooms would be graduated by the size adopted.

Mr. ISA BUCKMAN, Jr., made a few remarks upon his plan, submitted at the previous meeting of the Committee, but comprising only a recapitulation of his previous statements.

The plans having been all submitted, the Chairman of the Committee announced that the Committee were ready to attend to any suggestions by the Architects offering plans and specifications for a new City Hall, upon the subject of the erection of the proposed building in Madison-square, as opposed to the present site. They would be happy to hear both those favoring and those opposed to the project.

Mr. NILES, in compliance with the invitation, urged at some length the benefits he deemed the City would gain from erecting the proposed Hall in Madison-square. The population of New-York he estimated in fifteen years would reach *one and a half millions of souls*; and that, consequently, for the wants of the major part of this vast population, that the present Park would be too inconveniently remote for easy access.

After Mr. NILES, the Committee adjourned. It was announced previously, however, that the Committee would meet again to hear further expression of views in relation to a change of location of the proposed new City Hall, and that no further plans or specifications would be received.

City Politics—The Soft Shells.

A special meeting of the Central Democratic Union was held last evening at Tammany Hall. JOHN COCHRANE, President, presided.

Mr. MCLEOD MURPHY offered the following resolutions, which, after speeches from Messrs. COCHRANE, CONE, KING, RUNKEL and others, were adopted singly, without opposition:

Resolved, That the tidings which reach us of recurring instances of Spanish interruptions of our commerce, and outrage on our flag, require that endurance be replaced by redress, and recommend that national honor be committed to the care of national strength. However deeply impressed with the importance of Cuba, the restriction of our meaning to the peaceful transfer requires the refusal of Spain to negotiate, the limit of our efforts be its acquisition. But the grievances that awaited their adjustment in the success of the effort, have not only been unrelieved by its failure, but having become more oppressive by accumulated aggressions, demand, with relentless energy, immediate reparation for injury and contempt of the flag.

Resolved, That satisfaction for individual claims is inadequate to the exigencies of a violated flag, and that peremptory indemnities granted, "the wrong and insult to the nation remain."] The answers by armed resistance of vessels covered by our flag—the right of search enforced upon vessels in possession of legitimate commerce—the firing upon unoffending steamers—the detention of and interference with the public mails—the quarantine arrest of peaceful citizens, and of official representatives, their imprisonment, and the direction of violence upon the national ensign, are wrongs too enormous to be repaired by anything less than the "repeal of the searching decree," and disavowal "by signal marks of distinction" of the outrages.

Resolved, That the conviction drawn from the history of our country, is confirmed by the present crisis, that the true policy of the Government is to maintain a position of independence of foreign influence, and to avoid entangling alliances; that any effort on the part of any foreign power to suppress an uprising of the Cuban people against Spanish oppression, will furnish this Government with a legitimate right of intervention. In like manner, any attempt to Africanize the Island of Cuba, with a view to make it an element of disturbance, or to place it beyond the pale of useful acquisition, whether stimulated by fanatics at home or emissaries abroad, will meet with prompt resistance from the Democracy of New-York; nor will they ever "consent to its transfer to either of the intervening nations, or to any other foreign State."

Resolved, That we rely with confidence that the Administration, will promptly and efficiently meet the crisis that presents have precipitated. In behalf of the of the national honor abroad—its careful guardianship of the rights of citizens at home—its interposition between divisive legislation and the interests of the people—its efforts to vindicate the nation, and to guard its interests, though baffled by the irresponsive action of the last Congress—we confident guarantee that when "honor is at stake," core will be taken that the Republic receive no detriment.

No other business was transacted.

SUNDAY LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Case of E. French.

The Mayor's office, and every avenue leading to it, were crowded to suffocation yesterday morning by the parties and their friends who were to obtain a hearing on the several charges of selling liquor on Sunday last. It was almost impossible to procure admission to the office, so dense was the throng. Finally Judge OSBORNE gave orders to clear the Court of all persons not interested in the case of RICHARD FRENCH, as his was the only case that would be then heard. The District Attorney appeared for the people, and Mr. TOMLINSON for the defence.

Judge OSBORNE, at 10½ o'clock, A. M., announced his readiness to proceed with the hearing.

The counsel for the defence said: That it was difficult to know how to address his Honor—he did not know whether he was in a Court of Justice or not. He objected in the beginning to have the trial held in the Mayor's Court.

The Counsel was here interrupted by Judge OSBORNE, who said that he might not pursue the argument, as the Common Council had a few weeks since passed an ordinance, setting apart that portion of the Mayor's Office for the disposition of such cases.

Mr. TOMLINSON said, he was aware that such an ordinance had been passed, but that it was merely the opinion of men. He claimed the right to be tried by a jury. A citizen has been dragged here by process of law to be deprived of his property and his liberty; it is the right of the citizen, he contended, who has made the law, to have it determined by his peers what is his liability. He therefore demanded the adjudication of a superior tribunal.

In relation to the law, before proceeding to the trial of the case, he would state the law, "that no ordinance of the Common Council can stand, the enactments with the laws of the State." The Corporation is not a Legislature—it is not even a local Legislature, as was held by BARNES, in the case of WILCOX, in Brooklyn; that the ordinances of the Common Council, taking away the permission granted by the Legislature for the sale of liquor on the Sabbath, were inoperative and null, and was so declared by Justice SPRANGER.

A fine of $2 50 was imposed by the State law for the sale of liquor on the Sabbath. He would inquire where did the Common Council get the power that enabled them to alter the statutes of the State, and destroy the law of the land. He wished it to be understood, not as the defender of the violators of the law, but as the advocate of the law. This is an important case, and as could be presented for the adjudication of any Magistrate. The case to be disposed of was one both of Grand Larceny, or any of those crimes over which the Magisterial jurisdiction; it was one where the defendant stood in a position as responsible as the Justice, whose aim it was to criminate him contrary to law. The sale of liquor on Sunday is but one offence, and cannot be divided or multiplied into different offences by the number of drinks taken, or the number of persons who drink. In proof of this he cited the case of ISAAC JOHNSON, a suit for accommodation, where for the illegal sale of gunpowder—the whole amount seized was but about $3,000, for the sale of several pounds of that article—the latter was endorsed but the single offence, and fined $125 only.

On the following objections the Counsel rested his arguments:

1. He objected to the Court as not being a legally constituted police court.

2. He demanded a trial by Jury.

3. That the Common Council had no right to pass any ordinance preventing the sale of liquor on Sunday, the State law having defined the offence and its penalty.

4. That the offence is *mala non* and not *prohibita*, and indivisible, and to be punished accordingly.

5. That the selling of liquor is allowed by law to travelers, and therefore, which embraces the Coroner's permission to sell to all.

He would assume the proposition, that the officer who bought liquor from Mr. French for the purpose of giving information was a delegated to do so by the Mayor, and if so, the act of selling liquor to him was perfectly legal, having been countenanced by the highest Municipal authority.

The District Attorney said that he presumed that these objections were urged by the opposite counsel by way of a demurrer. He was there in the discharge of a public duty. He knew Captain FRENCH for years, and he felt satisfied that what he may have done in violation of any ordinance would be done in the full conviction of its perfect legality, and that counsel would act with more alacrity to any legal decision that would be given than would Captain FRENCH.

He then proceeded to dispose of the objections suggested that had been urged by the opposite counsel. The first two he refused by saying that no person could be a better judge of his own jurisdiction or power than the Judge himself; and, secondly, that in all such cases as the present one, precedent showed that summary jurisdiction was resorted to with effect, and that no place was better adapted for such cases than the Mayor's office. In reference to the third objection he reviewed the State laws from 1788 to 1853 inclusive. In 1853 a law was passed which gave the power to the Common Council to pass an ordinance not only licensing but regulating the sale of liquor. By that law the Mayor, Aldermen and Police Justices of the City were empowered to proceed in the matter. It made a violation of the ordinance an punished a penalty misdemeanor. The third section of the Act empowered the Common Council to prescribe a penalty for each offence, not to exceed $10, or ten days' imprisonment.

The fourth objection, viz. That the above was not continuous or substantive, he said was his position. Police Justices have power to punish for misdemeanors in selling liquor on the Sabbath, without reference to the word "any" in the act, in connection with the subsequent word "every." He held, however, on the other hand, that any person whatever, who sold any quantity of wine, beer, &c., for every glass sold or drank, &c.; each sale constituting an offence. With regard to this objection, he stated, in reference to the Brooklyn case that the arrest having been made on that day was fatal to the misdemeanor.

The fifth he waived till evidence was brought in.

The sixth objection he disposed of by stating that decoys were legalized, as every person, under any other of law in any offence for the purpose of obtaining information and evidence, was entirely legal, and was disposed of by a learned Judge in the case of BOND, charged with the Post-Office robbery.

The District Attorney here closed his remarks.

Judge OSBORNE wished to know whether Mr. HALL contended that a man should be punished for selling liquor not to be drunk in the premises.

The District Attorney said that the clause "shall be delivered," were obsolete—so much so that it was a violation of the law to sell a bottle of wine to be drunk on the premises.

The District Attorney said also it was not incumbent to be present at examinations, and that he appeared on the present occasion by request of the Mayor, to which onto the citizens.

The Judge said that he would suspend this decision to Saturday next. The room was then cleared.

IF There is VERY little attraction in building this Spring. City architecture is dead—as it usually is still. With the exception of one or two new churches, Broadway has none of that dashing whole north of Canal impossible a year ago. The interest is about the Lafarge House, and as the rains of the Fitzroy Inn are few in number. Few stores are being remodeled. And as it is in Broadway, so in other parts of the city. Architects in speaking address have proved to be like parliamentary speakers.

IF GEORGE STEERS, of yacht celebrity, is spoken of as the patentee builder of the new Collins steamship.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

NEW-JERSEY.

MARKET REPORTS.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT CALENDAR—Today.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—Nos. 11,

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Board of Aldermen, No. 2 Chamber Street.

Board of Assistants, No. 2 Chamber Street.

SUPREME COURT—Special Term.

Chambers, No. 2 Chamber Street.

SUPERIOR COURT—Special Term.

Chambers, No. 2 Chamber Street.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—Special Term.

Chambers, No. 2 Chamber Street.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Recorder Hackett.

Counsel of the Court, Assistant.

For Trial.

COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.

Before Judges Daly, Peabody and Sutherland.

Counsel of the Court, Assistant.

For Trial.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—Nos. 20,

Before Judge Nelson.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—Nos. 20,

Before Judge Betts.

LONG ISLAND.

Kings County Hospital.

Insolvency Files.

Board of Supervisors.

Proceedings of the Board.

Meeting of the New Jersey Legislature.

Meeting of the Ohio Legislature.

Ohio Election Returns.

Ohio Election Returns.

Ohio Election Returns

New-York Daily Times.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1855.

To Correspondents.

[illegible]

The New-York Crimean Explosion.

The gentlemen engaged in forming the American Battalion for the British Legion have voluntarily given notice to Hon. Mr. McKeon of their retirement from participation in the enterprise, together with the disbanding of the volunteers whom they had enrolled in ignorance of any infraction of the neutrality laws. The bubble has burst, and order rules through Lager Beer halls, while enthusiastic filibusters, reveling in the imaginative glory of gold lace and of broadcloth, of sonorous titles and of well-lined purses, are content to relinquish their intended pursuit after reputation at the cannon's mouth, and to sink down into the ordinary common-place routine of daily toil. Suddenly discovering their occupation to be gone, and well aware that an indirect violation of international law would be repudiated by the British Government, as tending to embarrass their friendly relations with our own Administration, the heads of the enterprise at once concluded to acquiesce in the District Attorney's view of the illegality of their acts, and to waive all prospect of military preferment in the plains of the Crimea. The project being thus definitely abandoned, naught remains but to sketch for the benefit of the British public the brief history of this semi-farcical episode in the great drama dragging out its weary length in the East.

For some months last past a number of English residents contemplated the proposition of an American Rifle Corps for her Majesty's service, not only as a grateful evidence of their individual loyalty, but to subserve the further political aim of demonstrating the sympathy of Anglo-Americans for the success of the Allies. A thousand imaginary impediments were, however, conjured by their councils, until it was reserved to a handful of young men to attempt the realization of their projects. A merchant's clerk, out of employment, who had formerly been a Lieutenant in the Hon. East India Company's service, conceived the present moment to be an available one to reingratiate himself into the military profession, and consequently suggested to a number of premature veteran soldiers of more than one campaign, the possibility of the acceptance of his proposition to raise an American battalion, in which they could secure excellent and permanent commissions. Having received favorable responses from several gentlemen, who, having already tasted the sweets of military life in foreign service, the Mexican war, and the Lopez campaign, were by no means loath to accept the Queen's bounty, although incredulous as to the favorable reception of any propositions from a comparatively unknown soldier of fortune, that worthy boldly dashed into a diplomatic correspondence with the Minister at Washington, the Governor of Canada, the resident Consul and a host of other dignitaries. To the astonishment of the speculative soldiers, the mercantile diplomat announced the unqualified acceptance of their terms, and introduced a delegation of them to a member of the Colonial Legislature, who informed the Committee that he was authorized to incorporate them into the Foreign Legion, with the assurance that commissions would be awaiting them upon their arrival at Halifax, desiring them to be prompt in rendezvousing their men before the termination of a month, at which period the West India Squadron, homeward bound, would convey the battalion to England. These preliminaries having been duly reduced to writing, and considered as agreed upon, an office was secured, and the general business of recruiting carried on secretly, quietly and effectively, it being evident that no difficulty would be experienced in raising the contingent required from each office.

The mercantile hero, having successfully ingratiated himself into the good opinion of the Colonial representative, aspired at once to the Lieutenant Colonelcy of the Battalion—a post of honor resolved by the others to be determined by official election, upon the muster of the officers at Halifax. Discovering that he possessed not the confidence of one of his associates, who regarded him as absolutely incompetent as a field-officer, and personally unworthy to assume a high position over those who had seen greater service, and whose names, from historic association, would guarantee a marked respect from their companions in arms; the diplomatist, relying upon his preference as originator of the scheme, persuaded the honorable emissary to commence recruitment upon an enlarged scale. Within a few days the German papers were filled with glowing advertisements, intended to allure Holsteiners, Hungarians and the Teutonic race generally, while not a solitary cent was forthcoming, as promised to the American officers, to pay for the maintenance of the men raised through their influence; nor were the anticipated means of transportation placed at their disposal. It now became evident that the good faith of the Nova Scotian Legislator was questionable; and in sincere contempt for his miserable mismanagement and self-sufficiency, the entire body of Americans, perceiving that through injudicious haste and deplorable parsimony, the character of the battalion, even if properly organized, would be entirely destroyed, relinquished the enterprise into the hands of its original projector and his friend the Colonial agent. Upon Saturday the anticipated explosion occurred; the agent, terrified at the contempt he had so unexpectedly raised, sought safety in a precipitate flight, followed by the mercantile hero, blown to the fullest extent of dignity by an amply-filled pocket and the expectation of having conferred upon him a high grade in the Foreign Legion for the ingenuity of devising this transcendent scheme for the relief of Sebastopol. In these few words can we compress the eventful history of American sympathy for England.

We conceive that the people of Great Britain have just reason to complain of the prevalence of "old fogy"-ism in the bonreaux of their Government, if the conduct of their agents in this country be a criterion for judgment, for a more ridiculous exposition of vanity, pomposity and innate stupidity could not possibly be imagined to excel that the past week has witnessed. By an injudicious adherence to the monotony of routine, by an egotistic rejection of friendly counsel and precaution, the Honorable Nova-Scotian emphatically ruined an enterprise which could have been consummated by the drummer boy of a filibuster regiment. Poor John Bull! this little adventure has instructed him of his incompetency to move along with the spirit of the age. While expeditions intended for every species of aggressive foray spring into existence with the celerity of armed Minervas, despite the overwhelming opposition of our own and other Governments, the Solons of Nova-Scotia failed to discover in their domains a man competent to transport a few hundred "emigrants" over a direct line of communication, although backed by the credit of an Imperial Government. Ridicule apart, the comical termination of this enlisting project, wrought out as it has been by the comparative imbecility of men pretending to a knowledge of legislation, must be regarded as a most serious shock to British influence in America.

The Influence of Slavery on Education.

How does Slavery influence Education? Why, in this practical age, do philanthropists forbear to put this practical question to the defenders of Slavery! It may be because it has its difficulties for the propounder as well as for the interrogated party. It is not difficult to determine whether unpaid labor is profitable, or the *most* profitable commercially. The *Soil of the South*, a standard journal, devoted to the planting interest—competent authority, surely—corroborates what we said some weeks since on the economics of Slavery. It estimates the average value of a pound of cotton at eight cents, and the cost of its production at a trifle more than eight. How then is planting profitable? Unless on good lands and in favorable seasons, it is not; and were it not for the natural increase of the slaves, estimated at *fourteen* per cent., we are persuaded cotton could not be cultivated in those States by slave labor.

But we have done with labor, and profit and loss, for the present. We propose now to say something of Education at the South—something of the influences which make it what it is. But how shall these influences be estimated? We have the *resultant*—but we know of no method in social mechanics by which we might refer each effect to its particular cause with certainty. Many of the Slave States are *new*, and partake of all the disadvantages of recent developments. In the largest portion, pursuit of wealth absorbs every other passion, and reduces men to machines for making cotton and corn and sugar. Then there is "The Institution" itself, omniscient and omnipotent. Now what the influence of each of these causes may be, we leave each to judge, when we have stated the facts as they are.

We are accustomed to think the Common Schools system of the North a crown of beauty, a palladium of safety. It renders the mass homogeneous—it "leavens" the mighty "lump" of mind. In the common school the "rich and poor meet together," and the prerogatives of wealth are dishonored in the presence of diligence and genius. In the Slave States a system of Common Schools is impossible, absurd. The *material* is wanting where it should be,—the children, the community. The wealthy do not *fraternize cordially* with the poor. We wonder, not that there is a line between classes, but that it is no broader. The United States donated lands to the State of Alabama to the value of $2,000,000—the Legislature passed a school law establishing a free school in every precinct or township—and men were elected to put the law in operation. But it did not succeed. You might as well turn the cold hillsides of Vermont, or the bleak sand-heaps of Cape Cod, into cotton fields by law, and with as much success, as attempt to plant in such uncongenial soil the Free School system of the North. The larger towns—some of them—have such schools as the law contemplated. But the attempt was foredoomed to fail. A planting country, and slave labor, suppose large plantations—and large plantations separate families, and render the rural population sparse. There can be no pleasant road-side school-houses there, at every cross-road—at every third or fourth mile—unless they be filled with a class to which the inexorable law forbids all intellectual light. We conclude that the thing has been given up, for we hear nothing of school laws of late in any Southern State.

But the South is the land of Academies and Seminaries and Institutes—of Female Colleges and Male Universities. Mixed schools are almost unknown—each sex having its separate institution. In the Seminary and Academy, or Collegiate Institute, the little girl begins, and the young lady "*finishes*" her education. Young ladies oftener graduate or end their school days before seventeen than after. They marry much younger than with us, and devote fewer years to the culture of the mind.

The male schools, by whatever name called serve much the same purpose as at the North, save this exception, that they perform the function of the primary schools in addition to that of preparing young men for college.

The Census Bureau has declared that two-thirds of the teachers in the Slave States are natives of the South. We doubt it. We think it might easily be convicted of gross incorrectness. But let it be, for the sake of argument. Two-thirds, we should say, are from the Free States. Northern teachers are generally preferred, as more forbearing towards children unused to obedience, and because they are thought to be better qualified by education.

But this system of schools, apparently inseparable from the "peculiar institution," enhances the price of education wonderfully. All *suffer* by it—the *poor* are practically excluded from the possession of intellectual opportunity. Teachers estimate the average tuition of a young lady at from $50 to $60 per year, during the entire course of her school years. Institutions of the highest order at the North demand scarcely a third of that sum for the same period. A boy's expenses are something less, but still fabulous, compared with the free schools or seminaries of the Free States. Is this a *small* matter? In Alabama there are 23,757 native white citizens unable to read and write! Georgia has 41,200 of the same class! Kentucky 60,667, North Carolina 73,586, Virginia 77,005! Two hundred and ninety-two thousand two hundred and fifteen native white inhabitants in five Slave States who cannot read or write. We but repeat what Mr. De Bow declares to be returns made to the Census Bureau at Washington.

In Maine, whose hardy children are forced to contend against an inclement and unpropitious heaven, and a stubborn earth, one in every three of all the inhabitants attends school; in the richest planting State of the South one in twelve! There are in the Free States only twice as many children of an age suitable to attend school as in the Slave States, yet there are *six* times as many in the Free States at school! Have we carried the parallel far enough! We have not done justice. Remember that many employ private tutors, whose children are not reckoned in the above estimates; remember, too, that many are keeping their children at Northern schools. Nor in *this* justice, for we have included in our estimate the poor class of the North—the class, as is charged, which is leavened with fanaticism, given to mobs, to demonstrations, to *black* republicanism. We have included all its ignorance. Where is the poor class of the South, the contented, the *model* class! Not mentioned at all. To the white ignorance, then, add *all* the *black*, and the two hundred and ninety thousand in *five* States swells to *two millions*, who can neither read nor write. This is justice to the Free States as well as to the Slave States. Thus, instead of one in every four hundred unable to read or write, as in one of the New-England States, we have more than fifty in every hundred! This is the boasted refinement of half our Union! This is Human Progress in the land of Jefferson, and Washington, and Clay! Were we not justified in saying that the South suffered more from Slavery in her white population than in her black! Should we not be justified in saying that the Slave States are the fag-end of Christendom in point of education, reckoning the *entire* population as in the North and in other countries!

The Mayor and Police.

Counsellor J. W. Gerard is out in the *Journal of Commerce*, under the modest initials of his name, *in reply to our criticism* of Tuesday on the Mayor's Inaugural. He admits that the "Mayor may *once* have had his *opinion, before he entered on the duties of* his office, that the Judiciary (meaning the Recorder and City Judge,) is not the proper authority for determining police matters," but "*I*" (Mr. Gerard,) "differ with him, and the meeting differed with him, and the community at large differs with him in that respect."

This admission is all-sufficient for our cause. Here the case of the Times might well be rested, since we have done no more; attempted no more than is here granted to have been the views of the Mayor, not *before*, but *upon* entering on his high duties. The issue is now between Mr. Gerard and the Mayor. We have commended the general administration of the latter in too many respects, to permit the Counsellor to lash him over our shoulders with impunity. He was elected in November; had two months to reflect upon and shape his policy or course of administration. The summary and practical manner in which he opened his rule in January, shows that he had reflected maturely and profoundly. His initial message was a perfect paper of its kind. He told the City what he proposed to do; what he believed he could do; what he was apprehensive the existing Charter would not permit him to do thoroughly, or to his own satisfaction. The prominent drawback was the constitution of the Police. The appointing power to this Department was all wrong. The Recorder and City Judge were not the right men. *A Special Commission* should be constituted, and he urged this in language which the framers of the Police bill, against which so much recent indignation has been expressed, could not mistake. They fully concurred in the Mayor's Inaugural views, and proposed the Special Commission accordingly. The Mayor may have been wrong. Mr. Gerard says he was wrong; but for this wrong, let the responsibility at least be divided. Mr. Gerard only adds to the severity of his reflection on the high official for whose Administration he affects regard, by impeaching the motives of those who have simply acted on his recommendations. The Mayor may have radically changed since his inaugural in January. If so, it is not for Mr. Gerard to expose his inconsistency, or to twit others for *not* changing within the same two little months. It might have been borne in patience, if he had only been content to brand the Times as a "Pigmy politician." We could have lived under this from one who, in a professional life not particularly brief, has proved himself no politician at all, and whose highest present experiment in this line, appears to be to play trumpeter to the Chief of Police, and sing the praises of the blue] coat and brass buttons which on his "return from Europe," he commended in the uniform of the department. But when he adds wormwood to his cup of censure for the Mayor, we *do* feel and the public ought to feel, that he is riding the hobby which he mounted on his "return" aforesaid, with somewhat eager spirit. We pray Mr. Gerard, in conclusion, to temper his zeal for Mr. Chief Matsell, late Mayor *de facto*, by a show of consideration for the incumbent Mayor *de jure*.

The Vagrants and the Mayor's Action.

Who is to take the poor Magdalen by the hand? This question is one we fear more easily proposed than answered. At the same time it is one of no inconsiderable importance to the whole community.

Can any one, after due reflection, consider that the illegal disposition of forty-one melancholy cases reported to-day, is likely to produce any beneficial result? Perhaps the sidewalks may for a time be somewhat thinned of their numbers, though *even that is doubtful, for they have clearly as much* right to walk the streets as I have. But what I wish to see is some step towards the reclamation of these truly unfortunate women—some step towards their eventual restoration to that society from which they are now proscribed. And on this point it seems to me that the whole state of society is wrong, for while the victim of seduction is consigned to a life of wretchedness and vice only to terminate in a miserable and untimely death, the seducer goes at large, is admitted into the same society as before, probably to repeat his nefarious arts. Have any of your readers the misfortune to mourn as worse than dead some loved one of their family, lost to them through the machinations of some heartless deceiver, to look day by day upon the now vacant chair, to think night after night on the now vacant chamber, and of her who once occupied it in all the joyousness of artless innocence, while the gloom of settled melancholy fast deepening, is bringing down the gray hairs of the parents with sorrow to the grave, "refusing to be comforted because she is not." Sir, I know of such a case, (doubtless they could be numbered by thousands,) a beautiful girl 22 years of age, German by birth, five years resident in this country. She is highly intelligent, well educated, of fine sensibilities, and, lamenting her position, has made praiseworthy efforts to regain a footing in respectable society. A delicate constitution unfits her for menial labor which she would otherwise gladly accept, but being quick at her needle, able to knit, &c., she has endeavored to obtain a situation in a store, as she understands English perfectly. Scorning to tell a falsehood, she has, when inquired of, recounted her sad story, and then ——. No one will take the poor Magdalen by the hand. How different from the precept of our blessed Saviour, "Let him who is without sin among you *first* cast a stone at her."

From the attention that has recently been drawn to this subject, I trust that some of our wealthy and benevolent citizens will apply themselves at once to this great work of reclaiming and permanently benefiting these erring daughters of humanity.

> Lift them up tenderly,
> Treat them with care,
> Fashioned so slenderly,
> Young and so fair.

March 20. E. S. A.

We doubt if our correspondent is quite right in one point here made. These destitute and most pitiable creatures to whom the vigorous course of the Mayor now turns all attention, are clearly *vagrants* under the law. Nor have they any right to advertise their shameless trade in the street; nor is there any reason why the young should be so familiarized to vice as they must be while thoroughfares like Broadway are left nightly to swarm with prostitutes. The Mayor is right, we think, in attempting to remove this open and most disgraceful nuisance. No other City in our land has anything to compare with it. *London* and *Paris* alone, of all Christendom, match it. The sense of *decency cries aloud, demanding that in a de*cent city such scenes as are of nightly occurrence in our most thronged streets should be prevented. Nor should any misplaced sympathy for the degraded or lost hinder this deference to the requirements of public virtue and morals.

We agree entirely with E. S. A., that society is wrong in dooming the victim of the seducer to utter ruin, while the victim that wrought her ruin goes abroad respected and esteemed. Either lift up his victim to the level of honest women, or place him under the same curse that drives her from the homes of the virtuous and the walks of reputable citizens.

The suggestion to citizens ought to be pondered. If one has ever visited the Penitentiary and observed the influences that there surround those who are committed, the story of these wholesale committals, read in the morning, will make him sad for the day. Such a thing as reform there is scarcely possible. They are schooled by their associates for even grosser sinning than when they enter, and when their time is served out, there is not, before one in ten of them, any other prospect than the same dreadful one they were snatched from by the rude hands of the police. There is not a darker phase of human society than one sees who, during their term of imprisonment, studies the present and the future of these miserable beings. Who will move for the much-needed effort at reformation! Who will suggest and tell us how to obtain such an asylum for them as the House of Refuge is for vagrant children!

☞ The last hope of the Pierce Administration centres in Old Virginia. The official paper plucks up the courage to write a few words of encouragement to the faithful on the prospect for the Spring Election. The ground of affected confidence is that the Opposition have shown their hand in the State nominations. The real occasion for the paragraph, however, we suspect to be] a recent political mission of Mr. Senator Douglas to Richmond, where it is announced he made a speech to the Democracy in the "*African* Church." Why they should have assigned him this particular theatre, is a curious point for conjecture. Senators Mason and Hunter have also entered the canvass. The term of the former expires with the next Congress. He may be looking out for reelection, while his colleague, in common parlance, is said to have a *hankering* after the Presidency, and must clear the way by breaking down the Whigs and Know-Nothings in his own State.

☞ The *Asia* had not been telegraphed at Halifax when this edition of our paper went to press. The western passages have proved of late both stormy and uncertain. The *Asia* was seen near by Liverpool, bound in, by the *Atlantic*, and probably left on her regular day. But it may be Saturday before she is telegraphed at Halifax, measuring her voyage by the luck of the last steamer. The *Union* is yet out, from Havre and Southampton March 14.

☞ Senator Wilson, Know-Nothing Senator of Massachusetts, notwithstanding the little wilting visible in him while at Washington, stiffens up again as stout a friend of unconditional abolition as ever. He has lately delivered a lecture in Boston, in which he stands up to the straightest of his old opinions. Probably he can be found hereafter in the same place he now occupies.

☞ It will surprise some folks to hear that Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, is still alive. Political death takes as little hold on some men as drowning does on cats. The honorable Senator from Illinois was alive and to address the people of Richmond, Va., on Tuesday evening—and we presume he did. These voices from the dead ought to improve the people.

☞ We had nothing from Albany last night in the way of speculation on the Executive nominations yet pending in the Senate, nor is there any intimation that another Executive session will be held before the regular weekly day, Wednesday next.

Musical.

Academy of Music.—"Rigoletto" will be repeated to-night, with Signor Brignoli in the part of the Duke.

"William Tell," we are glad to learn, is in an active state of preparation, and will be produced next week without fail.

House-Hunting.

House-hunting *is*, we suspect, a peculiar institution, got up for the express purpose of trying the patience of mortals. We have often wondered that this evil had never been inflicted upon Job. This trudging up and down stairs, peering into apartments, encountering gruff landlords who are always preaching up the continued increase of taxes, and who very gravely assert that they cannot really afford to hire you six small rooms at a less rate than five hundred per annum, repairs at expense of the tenant, terms quarterly in advance, or in default thereof goods on the side-walk. Then again rendering yourself liable to the future suspicions of your future landlady, who thinks that you are satisfying a woman's curiosity regarding the furniture of her rooms rather than that you are really anxious as to whether you shall have a house over your head another week or not. She may be competent enough, too, to inquire whether your husband is a cartman, and is likely to keep his cart continually under his eye, by leaving it at the door of his residence, or whether he is a butcher or printer, for she hates the bloody boots of the one and the late hours of the other. Or, horror of horrors! she may be suddenly anxious upon that very delicate point, as to whether there are any more members of the family than your husband—not that she has really any objections, but that more are apt to chip the bannisters, fly kites out of the scuttle, or dig chunks of plaster out of the walls. Then, again, old ladies with spectacles, of the mother-in-law species, come more immediately under the ban of disapprobation on account of imputed querulousness. In fact, a tenant to be acceptable must always scrape his feet before entering, must be innocent of splitting wood upon the parlor floors, throwing potato-peelings upon the stairway, or garbage out of the windows. He must be always home at ten, not addicted to the Club, or given over to the Odds of Odd Fellowship, or to the tender mercies of the gridiron and goat—he may have a latch key, provided *he keeps it more for ornament than use*—but *on no occasion is he* to whistle when merry, or execute the double shuffle when in a state of exaltation.

Key West Enjoyments.

Key West, Saturday, March 10, 1855.

To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times:

I wish to address you in reference to this place, which has often been the topic of our discourse in times past. Superficially it is quite insignificant—four square miles tells that story. Then in elevation, eight feet, I should judge, would reach its summit above tide water. It is divided from another island lying southeast, by a narrow creek which is forable at low water. If that is included in Key West the area would be considerably increased, probably to the extent of "Oswego's" statement. On the southeastern extremity are salt works of respectable extent, but worked moderately. The road leading thereto from the settlement is a very good one, made of coral, dry and compact. It don't seem to have been heaved or injured by frost in the least. The "houses" here are of all sorts; with the exception of a few rather pretty private residences, they present a shabby appearance. The grog shops present to outsiders, Bill and myself for instance, quite an inviting appearance, but we have resisted their allurements thus far. The beach has no Rockaway sand, but is provided with a very good substitute, pulverized coral, which resembles the refuse lime about limekilns, and makes one apprehensive of its effect on the shoe leather. I have been bathing to divest myself of the idea that it is not caustic. Everything is coral here, or rather everything is based on coral—the keys, (called "islands" where I was "bred,") the shoals, the sponges, the harbors, the reefs, and the wrecking business.

The "wreckers" and pilots have some very fine boats, and, no doubt, are accomplished in their line. The amount of salvage paid here during the last year was $974,000. The facilities for wrecking vessels are first rate. There is a reef extending from Cape Florida, south, 150 miles, with all manner of currents setting over it. Between this reef and the keys, say ten to fifteen miles distant, there is good navigation for the wreckers with their boats. The color of the water is light blue.

The fort here on the south beach, or rather outside the beach quite a smart distance, having a coral base of course, is in its construction advanced, first, beyond the granite work, which extends fully above high water mark, say to the level of the grade of the interior. Above this is, and is *to be*, brick. Twenty guns are already mounted or in process thereto.

The water is good. It is rain water, caught in cisterns built above the surface. I just stepped to take a drink, and I pronounce the water first-rate. Still there are *pigeons* in excess always on the roofs from which this water is collected, and I have no doubt our gardeners at Fanwood would prize highly the first run of the water from those roofs, *as a fertilizer*. At first, I gave the water presented to me at the table a very close examination, but its solvent power is perfect. I could detect no precipitation, no sediment. So I let it slide inwardly. Afterwards, I simply regretted that I had been at all curious in regard to the condition of the roofs. Bill had not been so observing, and was enjoying the water mightily. I couldn't stand that long, and so I enlightened him thereon. He afterwards expressed his regret that I should have been so remiss in imparting information of that sort to him; but his regret came too late—I now had a sympathizer.

This leads me to confess that I, too, have known delicacy like myself to withhold information, and find myself refusing to vex that which is provided for me. Before coming here I was in the way of finding bread and butter freely, of making my mouth wide some. Here, one is suddenly choked off of that particular diet. By the eloquent demonstrations of the water, I say in bodily, inconvenient sort (not spiritual), "touch not, taste not, handle not." I perceive it too spread my bread with guava jelly, and bolt it down with the aid of tea made of pigeon—I mean, cistern water. My landlady is Mrs. Mallory, the mother of Senator Mallory, a fine old Irish lady, crippled by rheumatism, and we are left to the tender mercies, the refined tastes, the industrious habits—and cleanly, too—of her slaves.

Then the sleeping is rather severe. The room is inferior to a first-class pig-sty at the North. It is the second-story of a piazza, eight feet wide, one end of which, 18 feet, is partitioned off and enclosed by clapboards, giving a room 8x18 feet. There is no inside finish. The roof is old, ventilated, and adorned with cobwebs. The floor is good, was never scrubbed, but I have evidence that it has been swept once since my arrival, by the disappearance of the principal cigar stumps from the floor. On reflection, I wont assert that the room has been swept—the cigar stumps might have been picked up and thrown out of the window.

Good bye. E. P. H.

Know-Nothing Victory at Newburg.

Correspondence of the New-York Daily Times.

Newburg, Wednesday, March 20, 1855.

The Town Election took place here yesterday—there were three tickets in the field—American, Temperance and a union of Whigs and Democrats. The American and Temperance Tickets were nearly the same. Fourteen of the twenty candidates on the American Ticket were elected.

T.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING.
ALFRED MUNROE & CO.,
NO. 441 BROADWAY,
Are now exhibiting a large stock of Clothing, suitable for the approaching season, which they
OFFER AT RETAIL AT LOW PRICES.
Also,
BOYS' CLOTHING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, ONE PRICE FOR GOODS—NO DEVIATION.

A. W. FABER'S LEAD PENCILS
MANUFACTURER'S DEPOT AT NO. 223 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK.
A complete stock of the above always on hand.
EBERHARD FABER, Sole Agent.

MELODEONS TRIUMPH OVER ALL COMPETITORS.—S. D. & H. W. SMITH'S celebrated Melodeons. The first premium has just been awarded Messrs. Smith's Patent Melodeons at the Grand National Fair, Washington, D. C., over all the Melodeons of the Mechanics' Charitable Institute for the State of Massachusetts. For power and sweetness of tone, evenness of tune, elasticity of touch, beauty and durability of style, they cannot think of any other manufacturer in the United States. Prices from $100 to $600. A superior Melodeon at a very low price can be had by a call at the sole agency, HORACE WATERS, No. 333 Broadway.

GREAT BARGAINS IN CARPETINGS.—SMITH & LOUNSBERY, No. 656 Broadway, (near Grand-st.) are now prepared to exhibit one of the most beautiful stocks of Carpets ever offered in this market, at a REDUCTION of 25 per cent. from last season's prices:
Rich Velvets.....50c. to 14s. per yard.
Rich Tapestry.....4s. to 10s. per yard.
Rich Brussels.....3s. to 10s. per yard.
Rich Three-Ply.....4s. to 6s. per yard.
Rag Carpets.....3c. to 6c. per yard.
and other goods equally low.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF Safes, with Hall's Patent Powder-Proof Locks, the same that were awarded a medal at the World's Fair, London, 1851, and World's Fair, New-York, 1853, and this is the lock, and the only powder-proof lock that received a medal at the London World's Fair, though others are on exhibition at the present time with the name of "Powder Locks." The subscriber and his agents are the only ones authorized to make and sell his Patent Champion Safes, with Hall's Patent Powder Proof Locks. HERRING & CO., Herring Block, Nos. 189, 191 and 193 Water-st., New-York.

ALBERT H. NICOLAY, AUCTIONEER.—HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE SALES.—The undersigned has leave to inform his numerous friends, and the public, that he will continue to attend to the sale of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE at Auction at the residence of families that intend breaking up housekeeping this Spring. Account sales rendered invariably on the following day after the sale, and cash payments required.
ALBERT H. NICOLAY, Auctioneer, No. 6 Broad-st.

SEWING MACHINES.—TO ALL THOSE UNFORTUNATE individuals who have bought Sewing Machines which fail to perform the work they were represented to do, we desire to say that SINGER'S SEWING MACHINE will actually do everything the public want done. Abundant conviction and satisfactory references given on so many branch of work. Our machines have just been greatly improved as to noise, without which we think there is little use for any other. I. M. SINGER & CO., 323 Broadway.

PIANOS.—W. GILBERT & CO.'s CELEBRATED Premium Pianos, Horace Waters' modern improved Pianos, and those of large number of other makers, including the famous and most durable concert Piano in the United States, will be sold, at prices which defy competition, for cash or satisfactory paper. Persons in the City receiving orders for Pianos will find it to their advantage to call.
HORACE WATERS, No. 333 Broadway.

HERNIA.—ONLY PRIZE MEDAL.—AWARDED TO MARSH & CO., No. 2 Maiden lane, New-York, by the Industrial Exhibition of all Nations, for their new PATENT RADICAL CURE TRUSS. Reference as to its superiority, by Profs. Valentine Mott, Willard Parker, and John W. Carnochan. An extensive list of names of many noble and other gentlemen cured by this Truss may be seen at their office. Open from 7 A. M. until 9 P. M.

SHAWLS FROM AUCTION.—THE SUBSCRIBERS will offer this morning one of the largest and richest stocks of Shawls ever before offered in this City. Having purchased them at the late auction sales, are enabled to sell them a much lower prices than their real value.
E. H. LEADBEATER & CO.,
No. 347 Broadway, corner of Leonard-st.

KNOX'S HATS.—THE HATS MANUFACTURED BY KNOX for Spring wear have achieved a splendid success, and whether the ladies admire generally have arrived or not, his trade for the present month has been very great. KNOX'S nobbyeries are at No. 128 Fulton-st., and No. 418 Broadway, under the Prescott House.

ANTHONY J. BLEECKER, AUCTIONEER.—IN addition to his Real Estate business, the subscriber has established in his office a department for the sale of Furniture. A competent person will be found at the desk for the reception of orders, and the general supervision of this branch of business. ANTHONY J. BLEECKER,
No. 7 Broad-st.

NEW SILK.—WE WILL OPEN THIS MORNING three cases of rich Spring Silks, which we will sell at 75c. per yard worth $1. Also, one case of superior Black Silk, warranted to wear well, at 50 per cent. under their cost to import.
E. H. LEADBEATER & CO.,
No. 347 Broadway, corner of Leonard-st.

TO THE BALD, OR THOSE WHO ARE LOSING THEIR HAIR.—Special attention is called to an advertisement in our columns headed "SWEDISH HAIR CREATOR," which should be read with great care. To confirmed cheeks we pardonably add our testimony, and request them to read one of our numerous certificates.

MILLINERS ARE INVITED TO VIEW THE SILK Bonnets at E. P. FIELDING'S, 363 Broadway, Nos. 12 and 13 Johnson's Patent Building, the finest, best and most fashionable ever received monthly from Paris. Prices lower than the cost of similar fabrics manufactured here. Call and see the Spring assortment.

LET THIS BE YOUR GUIDE.
English Velvet Carpets 10s., 11s. per yard.
English Tapestry Carpets 3s., 4s., 5s. per yard.
English Three Ply Carpets 3s., 4s., per yard.
Ingrain Carpets 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 3s. 6d.
HIRAM ANDERSON & Co., 59 Bowery.

PIANOS AT EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.—WARranted to be perfect satisfaction. A few second-hand Pianos, made by Hallett & Cumston, at a bargain. Pianos to let. Pianos tuned by a first-rate tuner. Pianos removed. C. H. E. MATHEWS, No. 2 Court-st., (Athenæum block,) Brooklyn.

GAS FIXTURES.—OVER THREE HUNDRED different patterns of chandeliers, embracing the best designs from the leading manufactures in France, England and America. Also, a large assortment of white and decorated china, all of which we offer at very low prices.
W. J. F. BAILEY & CO., Nos. 631 and 633 Broadway.

CALL AND INSPECT THE STRAW BONNETS, OF all styles, qualities and shapes, at E. P. WILDES', Nos. 69 and 71 Fulton-st., manufacturer and importing largely, he is enabled to present assortments in every branch of the millinery business, which in variety and extent defy competition.

LACE CURTAINS.—LACE CURTAINS.—JUST RECEIVED from Auction one case of rich Lace Curtains, and for sale at great bargains. Also, 1,000 Marseilles Quilts at $1 50, worth $2. E. H. LEADBEATER & CO., No. 347 Broadway, corner of Leonard-st.

MEALIO, HATTER,
Spring style just issued.
Secure one without delay.
Cor. Broadway and Canal-st.

TURKEY CARPETS, RUGS, AND MATS.—THE largest and most splendid assortment ever in the City, with a large stock of velvets, Brussels and ingrains, directly from the mills. E. A PETERSON & CO., No. 76 Canal-st.

FOULARD SILKS.—JUST RECEIVED, 5 CASES OF Foulard Silks of a very superior make, which we will sell at 4s. and 5s. per yard. E. H. LEADBEATER & CO.,
No. 347 Broadway, corner of Leonard-st.

MELODEONS.—S. D. & H. W. SMITH'S MELODEONS, toned the equal temperament, can be found only at the Rooms and Piano Store of HORACE WATERS, No. 333 Broadway. The trade supplied on the most liberal terms.

CROUP, COUGH.—CAN BE CURED IN ONE NIGHT by bathing the throat and chest with T. H. STANFORD'S OLIVE TAR. Price 25 cents a bottle. Depot of No. 4 Astor-st., and by T. MILHAU, druggist, No. 183 Broadway.

UNCURRENT MONEY REDEEMED.—KENTUCKY Trust Company and Bank of Commonwealth, Indiana money, redeemed by H. S. BABBE, No. 62 Liberty-st.

PETERSON & HUMPHREY, NOS. 477 AND 479 BROADWAY.—Carpetings, Oil Cloths, &c., &c., &c., for sale on the most reasonable terms for cash.

GENTS' SPRING STYLES OF GENTLEMEN'S Hats and Caps are now ready at No. 251 Broadway, opposite St. Paul's Church.

DRY GOODS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LECTURES.

STRAW GOODS

WANTED.

MAGNETIC POWDERS.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

PERSONAL.

MATRIMONIAL.

MEDICAL.

FINANCIAL.

BOUNTY LANDS.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

INSTRUCTION.

PROPOSALS.

FURNITURE.

TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

HOUSES AND COTTAGES.

TO RENT.

FOR SALE.

HOUSES, &c. WANTED.

TO LET.

RAILROADS.

DIVIDENDS.

EXPRESSES.

BANK BOTTOMS.

LOST AND FOUND.

REMOVALS.

FARO PLAYING CARDS.

ZINC PAINTS.

New-York Daily Times. Friday Morning, March 20, 1855.

New-York City.

A Pleasant Reunion.

The Young Men's Democratic Association of the Seventh Ward held a pleasant reunion last night, at their rooms in Bleecker-st. Addresses were made by Messrs. Ranney, Hall, Ward, Hall, Ranney, Hall, Ward, Hall, Ranney, Hall, Ward, Hall,